

THE
Thurrock Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE
Chief Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1937

GRAYS.
John Higgins, Printing Contractor.

1938.

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URBAN DISTRICT OF THURROCK.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health:

W. T. G. BOUL, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

K. N. MAWSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Resigned 31/12/1937).
C. B. HUSS, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S.; L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(Appointed 1/1/1938)

Assistant Medical Officer of Health:

A. R. PARK, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H. (Resigned).
E. PATTERSON, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (Resigned).

Medical Officer in charge of Isolation Hospital (part time):

J. R. A. TALLACK, M.B., Ch.B.

Orthopædic Surgeon (part-time):

B. WHITCHURCH HOWELL, F.R.C.S. (Eng.)

Obstetric Specialist (part-time):

ANDREW McALLISTER, F.R.C.S (Eng).

Dental Surgeons (part-time):

W. S. ROSE, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)
W. H. H. R. SMITHURST, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)

Health Visitors:

Miss R. C. ALLCORN	Miss I. GIBSON
Mrs. E. M. KING (1, 2, 3, 4)	„ E. M. MARSHALL (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
Miss E. M. CANDLER, (1, 2, 3, 4)	„ E. C. P. MILLER (1, 2, 3, 4)
„ E. DARRALL (1, 2, 3, 4)	„ A. POLLEY (1, 2, 3)

1. State Registered Nurse. 2. General Training.
3. Certified Midwife. 4. New Health Visitors' Certificate.
5. Tuberculosis Certificate.

Matron, Isolation Hospital: Miss E. D. DAVIS, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Orthopædic Masseuse (part-time):

Miss M. E. WELLS, C.S.M.M.G. & M.E.

Clerk, Isolation Hospital: C. M. ANSELL.

Chief Sanitary Inspector: L. C. CULLISS

Certificates: Roy. San. Inst., Inspector of Meat and other Foods, Officer under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919. Inspector under Shops Acts.

Sanitary Inspectors:

R. BULL (1, 2, 5)	A. E. T. NETTING (1, 2)
R. K. DUNNING, (1, 2, 5)	J. YATES (1, 2, 4)
*A. H. GOSLING (1, 2, 3)	(Resigned, Sept., 1937).

**Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector.*

1. Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute. 2. Certificate, Meat and other Foods.
3. Smoke Inspector. 4. Member Institute of Public Cleansing.
5. Certificate, Sanitary Science & Building Construction, Battersea Polytechnic.

Chief Clerk: R. C. GILBERT.

Deputy Chief Clerk: R. L. BROWN.

Clerical Assistants:

D. LAYZELL, P. SMITHSON, R. THOMPSON, L. DANSIE.

Mortuary Attendant: J. COSBY.

The Medical Officer of Health and the Deputy and Assistant Medical Officers are also Assistant County Medical Officers to Essex County Council. The services of the Health Visitors are shared by the Essex County Council as School Nurses.

THURROCK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
PALMER'S AVENUE,
GRAYS, ESSEX.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Thurrock Urban
District Council.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1937.

This Report is the second Report for the Urban District as now constituted, but my thirteenth Report for the area as a whole. The district was constituted on the 1st of April, 1936, and it was formed by the amalgamation of the Urban Districts of Grays, Tilbury and Purfleet and the Rural District of Orsett with the exception of certain small portions of rural parishes, which were transferred to adjoining local authorities.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. T. G. BOUL, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.



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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE AREA.

Land area of the District in acres	-	-	38,324
Population (Registrar-General's estimate mid-year, 1937)			67,170
No. of Inhabited Houses (at 31/12/37) according to Rate Books	-	-	17,946
Rateable Value, 31/12/37	-	-	£429,708
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 31/12/37	-	-	£1,673

The Thurrock Urban District stretches along the northern bank of the river Thames, having approximately 18 miles of river frontage. The area adjoining the river is industrialised and contains the two major centres of population, the wards of Grays and Tilbury. The inhabitants of this portion of the district are engaged in factories for the manufacture of margarine, cardboard, cement, footwear and building materials, in shipbreaking yards, in Tilbury Docks, or the various oil works at Thames Haven and Purfleet. The inhabitants of the inland area are employed mostly in agriculture, the district containing many market-gardening and dairy farms.

An increasing number of the inhabitants of the district travel daily to the Metropolis.

The amount of unemployment varies throughout the area and is mostly concentrated in the wards of Tilbury and Grays. Much of the employment among dock workers is casual.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

The following figures have been very kindly supplied by the Managers of the Ministry of Labour Employment Exchange and the Juvenile Employment Bureau.

	Males 14-18	Females 14-18	Males 18-21	Females 18-21	Males Over 21	Females Over 21	Total
No. of Unemployed 31/3/37 ...	117	97	53	29	1416	143	1855
No. of Unemployed 31/12/37	112	111	68	33	1174	195	1693

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1937

LIVE BIRTHS.		M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	567	598	1165
Illegitimate	....	20	14	34

1199

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population, 17·8

		M.	F.	Total
STILLBIRTHS	....	23	19	42

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 33·8

		M.	F.	Total
DEATHS	....	342	297	639

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population 9·5

Death Rate corrected by Areal Comparability Factor 10·5

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES :
Deaths Rate per 1,000 total
(Live and Still) Births

Puerperal sepsis 1 0·83

Other Puerperal causes 2 1·67

		M.	F.	Total
DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR -		33	18	51

All Infants per 1,000 live births 43·3

Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births 41·2

Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births 88·2

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 81

,, ,, Measles ,, ,, Nil

,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages) 3

,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years) 2

Birth Rate, England & Wales (provisional figures) 14·9

Death Rate ,, ,, ,, ,, 12·4

Infantile Mortality Rate ,, ,, ,, 58

Chief causes of Death—

Heart disease 129 or 20·2%

Cancer 81 ,, 12·6%

Senility 55 ,, 8·6%

Cerebral hæmorrhage 40 ,, 6·2%

Tuberculosis (all forms) 36 ,, 5·6%

Pneumonia 35 ,, 5·6%

Violence, suicide, &c. 33 ,, 5·2%

Congenital debility, &c. 29 ,, 4·5%

Influenza 29 ,, 4·5%

The following table has been supplied by the Registrar-General.

CAUSES OF DEATH.				Male.	Female
ALL CAUSES				342	297
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers	...	...	—	—
2	Measles	...	...	—	—
3	Scarlet fever	...	...	—	—
4	Whooping cough	...	...	—	3
5	Diphtheria	...	...	1	1
6	Influenza	...	...	13	16
7	Encephalitis lethargica	...	...	1	—
8	Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	—	—
9	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	16	13
10	Other tuberculous diseases...	...	...	4	3
11	Syphilis	...	...	—	2
12	General Paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	...	...	2	—
13	Cancer	...	...	39	42
14	Diabetes	...	...	5	5
15	Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	...	...	12	28
16	Heart disease	...	...	64	65
17	Aneurysm	...	...	2	2
18	Other circulatory diseases	...	...	18	11
19	Bronchitis	...	...	12	13
20	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	21	14
21	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	3	1
22	Peptic Ulcer	...	...	2	1
23	Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	...	...	1	1
24	Appendicitis	...	...	2	1
25	Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	1	—
26	Other diseases of liver, &c....	...	...	2	4
27	Other digestive diseases	...	...	6	5
28	Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	6	7
29	Puerperal sepsis	...	...	—	1
30	Other puerperal causes	...	...	—	2
31	Congenital debility, &c.	...	...	21	8
32	Senility	...	...	31	24
33	Suicide	...	...	7	2
34	Other violence	...	...	19	5
35	Other defined diseases	...	...	30	17
36	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	1	—
LIVE BIRTHS ... { Legitimate				567	598
{ Illegitimate				20	14
{ Total				587	612
STILLBIRTHS ... { Legitimate				22	19
{ Illegitimate				1	—
{ Total				23	19
Deaths of Infants { Legitimate				33	15
under 1 year { Illegitimate				—	3
{ Total				33	18
POPULATION - 67,170				A.C.F. - 1.11	

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING 1937.

	BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.								RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.		
	Live Births.	Still-births	Typhoid Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	All Causes	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two years)	Total Deaths under One year
England and Wales ...	14.9	0.60	0.00	—	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.07	0.45	0.54	12.4	5.8	58
125 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	14.9	0.67	0.01	—	0.03	0.01	0.04	0.08	0.39	0.45	12.5	7.9	62
148 Smaller Towns ...	15.3	0.64	0.00	—	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.42	0.42	11.9	3.2	55
London ...	13.3	0.54	0.00	—	0.01	0.01	0.06	0.05	0.38	0.51	12.3	12.0	60
Thurrock Urban District ...	17.8	0.62	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.03	0.43	0.49	9.5	1.6	43

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Section B.

1. (i.) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

The medical, nursing and sanitary staff have been enumerated at the commencement of this Report.

(ii.) (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Essex County Council's Laboratories continue to serve the area as in former years. At the commencement of the year an extended laboratory service came into operation. The list of examinations which now can be carried out is very comprehensive and of widely varying scope, and for the first time facilities are provided for local authorities by which samples of water, sewage effluents, &c, will be examined, and more complete examination of milk samples will be undertaken. The list of examinations includes the following :

- Blood
- Cerebral-Spinal Fluid
- Faeces
- Food, including ice-cream
- Milk
- Sputum
- Throat Swabs
- Urine
- Sewage Effluents
- Drinking Water
- Swimming-bath Water
- Swabs of Streptococci (Haemolytic)
- Sputa for Tuberculosis
- Miscellaneous

No. of Specimens examined by the Bacteriologist from the District during the year ending 31st December, 1937.

Specimens.			No. Examined.
Diphtheria	....	....	909
Sputa ...	....	....	258
Typhoid	....	....	27
Ringworm	....	....	23
General	....	....	68
Milk ..	....	....	68
Water ....	....	....	3
Sewage	....	....	—
Total			1356

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The ambulance facilities in the district are adequate. The Council maintains two ambulances at the Isolation Hospital for the removal of infectious cases. One of these ambulances is getting old and will shortly require renewal. Ambulances for accidents and non-infectious cases are provided by the local Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, by arrangement with the local authority. Two ambulances are available and I am indebted to the Honorary Secretary, Mr. J. T. Kelley, for the following statistics:—

	Cases.	Total Mileage.
Road accidents	39	500
Cases removed	1,171	25,946

During the year a new ambulance has been provided, towards which a grant of £375 was made by the Urban District Council. The vehicle is a Talbot and should prove very satisfactory.

(ii) (c) NURSING IN THE HOME.

There are within the district eight Nursing Associations carrying out nursing duties in South Ockendon, Aveley, Purfleet, West Thurrock, Grays, Little Thurrock, Chadwell-St.-Mary, Tilbury and Bulphan, and in addition the Medical Comforts Committee has continued its useful work during the year. I am indebted to the Honorary Secretary of the latter Committee for the following figures concerning equipment hired out during 1937. The Medical Officer of Health continues as Chairman of the Committee.

Articles loaned out :—

Aveley	....	....	15
Chadwell	....	....	8
Purfleet	....	....	17
Stanford-le-Hope	....	....	40
Grays	....	....	126
			<hr/>
			206
			<hr/>

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

CLINIC.	ADDRESS.	SESSIONS.	REMARKS.
Maternity and Child Welfare	<p>Aveley—National School ...</p> <p>Bulphan—Parish Hall ...</p> <p>Chadwell-St.-Mary— Welfare Centre, River View ...</p> <p>Corringham—The Reading Room ...</p> <p>Coryton—The Institute ...</p> <p>Grays—Welfare Centre, The Park ...</p> <p>Horndon—Methodist Church Hall ...</p> <p>Little Thurrock—Baptist Church Hall, Socketts Heath ...</p> <p>Linford—Community House, Bata Shoe Co. Ltd., E. Tilbury ...</p> <p>Orsett—The Institute ...</p> <p>Purfleet—Welfare Centre, London Road ...</p> <p>Stanford—St. Margaret's Hall ...</p> <p>South Ockendon—Congregational Church Hall ...</p> <p>Filbury—Welfare Centre, Civic Square ...</p> <p>West Thurrock—Parish Room ...</p>	<p>Alternate Fridays, 2 p.m. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 2 p.m.</p> <p>Every Wednesday, 2 p.m. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 2 p.m. 3rd Friday, 2 p.m. ...</p> <p>Every Tuesday and Thursday, 2 p.m. 1st & 3rd Fridays, 2 p.m.</p> <p>Every Thursday, 2 p.m.</p> <p>Every Tuesday, 2 p.m. 2nd Tuesday, 2 p.m.</p> <p>Alternate Tuesdays, 2 p.m. Every Thursday, 2 p.m.</p> <p>2nd & 4th Mondays, 2 p.m.</p> <p>Every Tuesday and Wednesday, 2 p.m. 1st and 3rd Mondays, 2 p.m.</p>	<p>Dried Milk, Foods, &c., sold at all sessions.</p>
Ante-Natal	<p>Grays— Little Thurrock— Stanford— Tilbury— West Thurrock—</p> <p>} See Welfare Centres above.</p>	<p>Every Friday, 9 a.m. 2nd & 4th Friday, 2 p.m. 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 9 a.m. Every Thursday, 2 p.m. ... 1st Thursday, 9 a.m.</p>	
Women's Welfare (Birth Control)	Grays—See above ...	1st Thursday, 6 p.m.	Patients seen only by appointment

Orthopædic (a) Diagnosis	Grays—Glasson House, High Street	By Appointment Every Tuesday and Friday 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 2 p.m. Every Monday, 10 a.m.	Clinic held jointly by Essex County Council & Thurrock U.D.C.
	Tilbury—Welfare Centre, Civic Square Grays— <i>See above</i> Tilbury—, ,		
(b) After-Care			
Tuberculosis Dispensary	Grays—Glasson House, High Street	Every Monday, 4 to 6 p.m. Every Thursday, 10 to 12 noon	Provided by Essex County Council.
School Clinics	Grays—Glasson House, High Street	Minor Ailments—Daily, 9 a.m. Inspections—Every Wed., 9.30 a.m.	Provided by Essex County Council. Closed during School holidays.
	Tilbury—Welfare Centre, Civic Square Aveley—Council School Stanford—Council School	Minor Ailments—Tues. & Fri, 9 a.m. Inspections—Friday, 9 a.m. Minor Ailments—Friday, 9 a.m. Minor Ailments—Friday, 9 a.m. Inspections—3rd Friday, 9 a.m.	
*Eye Clinic	Grays—Glasson House, High Street	Tuesday, 9.15 a.m.	Provided by Essex County Council. Closed during School holidays. Refrac- tions by appointment only.
Dental Clinic	Grays—Welfare Centre, The Park	Monday and Tuesday, 10 a.m. Other sessions as required	Provided by Essex County Council. Closed during School holidays. All treat- ment by appointment only.
Venereal Diseases	Gravesend—22 Cobham Street...	Men—Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. —Thursday, 4.45 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. Women—Tuesday, 12.45 to 2.30 p.m. —Thursday, 3 to 4.45 p.m.	Provided by Kent County Council. Essex patients may attend free of charge.

* The Timetable for this Clinic is being altered for 1938.

(ii.) (e) HOSPITALS.

Seamen's Hospital, Tilbury.

The accommodation was given in my Report for 1936, and no change has occurred. The Secretary, Seamen's Hospital Society, has kindly supplied the following figures:—

No. of In-patients during 1937	....	1555
„ „ Out-patients „ „	....	5807
„ „ Major operations performed	...	670
„ „ Minor „ „	...	407

Orsett Public Assistance Institution.

General Medical Beds	...	188
Tuberculosis	....	7
Isolation	....	6
Mental (Observation) Beds	..	8
Maternity Beds	....	7

Thurrock Isolation Hospital.

The Isolation Hospital is situated in Stifford Long Lane, Little Thurrock, on a site of $10\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

It consists of 6 ward blocks allocated to the nursing of infectious diseases and 1 block which has been set apart as a sanatorium. There are normally 90 beds available for infectious diseases and 18 beds for the sanatorium.

TRAINING FOR NURSES.

The Hospital is an approved training school for the training of Fever Nurses. Proposals for the erection of a new nurses' home have been approved by the Council and it is hoped that this home will be erected early in 1939. The present accommodation at the Hospital is extremely inconvenient for the staff and the erection of the home will serve a long-felt want.

The following table shows the admissions and discharges during the year.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Streptococcal Infection	Poliomyelitis	Measles-Pneumonia	Para-Typhoid	Erysipelas	Croup	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pemphigus Neonatorum	Nursing Mothers	Gastric Enteritis	Polio-Encephalitis	Total
In hospital, 1/1/37	28	11	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Admitted during the Year ...	274	62	17	4	12	3	8	1	3	6	4	2	1	397
Discharged during Year ...	263	64	17	4	12	3	8	...	3	5	4	2	1	386
No. In hospital, 31/12/37	39	7	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	47

MONTHLY ADMISSION OF SCARLET FEVER AND DIPHTHERIA.

Month.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.
January	20	—
February	26	9
March	30	5
April	21	4
May	23	11
June	26	8
July	19	9
August	15	—
September	11	3
October	15	4
November	32	6
December	36	3
	274	62

MONTHLY AVERAGE NUMBER OF PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL,
INCLUDING THE SANATORIUM.

January....	....	38·0	
February	....	31·2	
March ....	....	47·5	Including Sanatorium which opened in April
April ....	....	39·6	57·6
May ....	....	34·4	52·4
June ....	....	41·5	59·5
July ....	....	36·0	54·0
August ....	....	26·3	44·3
September	...	16·7	34·7
October ....	....	23·2	41·2
November	....	32·0	50·0
December	....	45·8	63·8
Average—			
for year	....	34·4	from April 50·8

COMPLICATIONS.

Diphtheria. Adenitis, 20; Rhinorrhœa, 10; Otorrhœa, 2; Laryngeal Diph., 3; Cardiac Failure, 2; Palatal patesis, 4; Nasal Diphtheria, 6.

Scarlet Fever. Cervical Adenitis occurred in some 20 per cent. of cases admitted. Rhinorrhœa, 12; Secondary attack, 1; Otorrhœa, 20; Acute Rheumatism, 3; Acute Nephritis 3; Albuminuria, 3.

Operations. Mastoids, 3; Gland Incision, 1; Lumbar Punctures, 3.

Swabs taken. 590 nose and throat.
55 sputum.

645

SANATORIUM.

The Sanatorium which was opened in April, 1937, by agreement with the Essex County Council, has proved very successful and a number of the patients treated have shewn marked improvement. Total number of patients treated in the Sanatorium since April was 36, several of them being local men.

The following table shows the work done by each Ambulance during 1937.

Austin	343 journeys.	2,896 miles.
Morris	382 „	2,744 „
	<hr/> 725 „	<hr/> 5,640 „

DISINFECTION OF BEDDING, &c.

During the year the Ford 8-h.p. van has proved to be very satisfactory for the purpose of collecting and delivering infected bedding, and the work has been carried out expeditiously. The van has travelled 6,594 miles and completed 942 journeys.

INTERIOR DECORATIONS.

Sanatorium Block. Administrative Block.—This work includes the Pantry, Bathroom, Maids' Sitting and Dining rooms.

Jubilee Block.—This work includes the ceilings to three discharge rooms.

Disinfecting Room --Interior distempering.

Four-Ward Block.—Painting of lavatories.

EXTERNAL DECORATIONS.

Military Block.

Patience Block.

Disinfecting rooms.

Decorations were also carried out at the Nurses' Home and the Porter's Lodge at the Smallpox Hospital.

3. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

(i.) MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

The Midwives practising within the district are as follows :—

Thurrock Urban District Council	-	10
Essex County Council	-	1
Midwives Employed by District		
Nursing Associations	-	7

During 1937 the Midwives employed by the Urban District Council attended 595 patients. Arrangements for dealing with the Midwives' Act having commenced on 1/7/37, each application for a midwife or a maternity nurse is assessed and dealt with upon a scale of charges approved by the Essex County Council. The administration of the Act has proceeded very satisfactorily, although a large amount of extra clerical work is involved.

(ii.) INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS AND CHILDREN.

The Council have complete services for the admission of maternity cases to hospital before, during and after confinement. The number of patients so admitted during 1937 was as follows :—

Orsett Institution	-	-	69
Queen Mary's Hospital, Stratford	-		25
Oldchurch Hospital, Romford	-		71
East End Lying-In Hospital	-		7
Other Hospitals	-	-	2

(iii.) HEALTH VISITORS.

The Council employs eight Health Visitors, sharing their services with the Essex County Council. By this arrangement each Health Visitor acts as School Nurse over a portion of the Urban District. Prior to the formation of the Thurrock Urban District, Health Visitors were shared with the Essex County Council under various arrangements and agreements.

The Health Visitors are now whole-time servants of the Thurrock Urban District Council, their services being paid for by an arranged grant from the Essex County Council.

Visits paid by Health Visitors during the year :—

(i.) To expectant mothers.	First visits	208
	Re-visits	130
(ii.) To children under 1 year of age.	First Visits	1,179
	Revisits	3,651
(iii.) To children aged 1-5 years.		5,785
Total Visits		<u>10,953</u>

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

(i.) No. of Clinics maintained by the Council	15
(ii.) Total number of attendances at all Centres during the year :—	
(a) By children under 1 year of age	13,938
(b) By children between ages 1 and 5 years	12,749
(iii.) Total number of children who first attended at the Centres during the year and who at the date of their first attendance were :	
(a) Under 1 year of age	914
(b) Between ages 1 and 5 years-	287
(iv.) Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centres during the year and who at the end of the year were :—	
(a) Under 1 year of age	728
(b) Over 1 year of age	1,434
(v.) Percentage of notified live births represented by the number (ii.) (a)	78.1%

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Centre	Sessions Held	Total Attendances		First Attendances	
		Under 1 Year	1-5 Years	Under 1 Year	1-5 Years
Aveley	27	472	289	43	19
Bulphan ...	24	65	150	3	8
Chadwell-St.-Mary	51	1602	1243	77	17
Corringham ...	23	235	314	15	8
Coryton	12	60	109	1	2
Grays ...	104	4033	2997	236	32
Horndon	24	107	243	9	6
Linford	7	40	49	14	15
Little Thurrock ...	52	1935	1193	103	40
Orsett	12	34	95	5	2
Purfleet .	25	298	430	24	16
Stanford-le-Hope...	51	1360	1088	94	21
South Ockendon ..	23	372	432	23	6
Tilbury ...	101	2877	3578	203	77
W. Thurrock	22	448	539	64	18
	558	13,938	12,749	914	287

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

Clinic	Sessions Held	Total Attendances	New Patients
Grays	49	919	179
Little Thurrock	23	253	66
Stanford-le-Hope	23	460	101
Tilbury	51	889	177
West Thurrock	12	82	33
	158	2603	556

WOMEN'S WELFARE CLINIC.

Number of sessions held during the year	-	14
Number of new cases attended	-	38
Total attendances by old and new cases	-	121

During the last few years the Maternity and Child Welfare work in the district has increased enormously, and I append the following table for comparison.

	1932	1937
No. of Infant Welfare Centres	11	15
Total Births....	1105	1199
Total attendances of children under 5 years at Welfare Centre	17,246	26,687
Total number of sessions held at infant welfare, ante-natal and Birth Control Clinics ...	508	737

(iv.) CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

No. of Foster-mothers on register 13

No. of Infants registered 14

Total visits to above by Infant Life

Protection Visitors 31

Conditions in regards to these children have been satisfactory. No prosecutions have been undertaken or warnings given during the year.

I am indebted to the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children for the following figures :

Cases reported 52

Allegations confirmed 52

Action taken—

Warned 49

Prosecutions and convictions 3

Classification of Cases—

Neglect 36

Ill-treatment 1

Advice sought 5

Miscellaneous 10

Analysis of Cases reported—

By general public ... 17

Education and other officials 35

Children affected :

Male 93

Female 75

Adults Warned :

Male 49

Female 44

Visits Paid :

Supervision 170

Miscellaneous... ... 146

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Facilities are available for all forms of dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers. The Council assesses patients to repay the whole or portion of the cost, according to their financial circumstances. Necessitous cases are treated free of charge.

(v.) ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

Details of the Clinics held under this heading will be found in the table of Clinics and Treatment Centres earlier in this Report. The arrangements have been reported fully in previous Annual Reports, and no alterations have occurred during the year.

ASCERTAINMENTS (SURGEONS) CLINIC.

Date of Clinic.	Essex C.C.	Thurrock U.D.C.	Total.
8th January ...	29	8	35
19th March ...	54	11	65
11th June ...	58	13	71
3rd September ...	63	10	73
29th October ...	28	9	37

AFTER-CARE CLINIC.

No. on Register at 1/1/37 ...	294	110	404
„ on Register at 31/12/37...	280	134	414
„ Discharged as cured ...	48	10	58
„ „ for other reasons	54	41	95
New Cases seen ...	88	75	163

NATURE OF TREATMENT.

Exercises ...	37	1	38
Massage, &c. ...	7	5	12
Wedges and After-care ...	250	89	339
Breathing Exercises ...	8	—	8
Supervision of Appliances ...	19	9	28

Patients requiring operative treatment are admitted to the Queen's Hospital for Children, Hackney Road, E.2., Brookfields Hospital, Walthamstow, and to the Cheyne Hospital, Chelsea, S.W.

Section C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i.) WATER.

The principal water supply of the district comes from the South Essex Waterworks Company, the majority of the districts being served thereby. Arrangements have been made for the sampling of this water at regular intervals throughout the year.

(ii.) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Minor extensions were carried out during the year.

2. (i.) RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The principal river in the area is the Mardyke which rises above Bulphan and Orsett Fens and discharges into the Thames at West Thurrock. There are various small tidal streams near the Thames.

3. (i.) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There remain in the district 487 cesspools and 630 pail closets and privies, and these are being converted as the opportunity arises.

(ii.) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

This is carried out by direct labour, under the supervision of the Engineer and Surveyor. The following vehicles are maintained by the Council:

2 S.D. Freighters.	1 Low-loading horse van.
1 Horse-van.	2 Horse-drawn dustcarts.

No change in the general arrangements has occurred since last year.

(iii.) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following report has been furnished to me by the Chief Sanitary Inspector under Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

			Visits paid.
Dwelling houses	....	....	5,590
Houses recorded under Housing Consoli-			
dation Regulations, 1925	....		1,657
Housing Act—Overcrowding	....		736
Infectious Diseases	....	....	606
Outworkers	....	....	1
Common Lodging Houses	....	....	5
Caravans	....	....	597
Factories	....	....	44
Bakehouses	....	....	68
Workshops	....	....	35
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	....		288
Fried Fish Shops	....	....	57
Butchers' Shops	....	....	70
Food preparation premises	....	....	31
Meat Inspection and Slaughterhouses	....		2,400
Ice cream premises	....	....	34
Stables, Pig Styes and accumulations	....		39
Shops Acts	....	....	452
Samples	....	....	78
Applications for Council Houses	....		643
Schools	....	....	6
Rat suppression	....	....	33
Smoke observations	....	....	38
Refuse tips	....	....	11
Special Visits	....	....	27
Dustbins	....	....	101
Drainage	....	....	21
Water supplies	....	....	5
Miscellaneous	....	....	1,086

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

In the course of the year 38 smoke observations were taken, all of which were in respect of emissions of black smoke. With one exception, the nuisances complained of were remedied informally. The exception was in connection with a firm situated on the river front at Grays. The case was a particularly flagrant one and clearly occasioned by overloading of the plant. An analysis of the twenty-one thirty minutes observations taken revealed an average of fifteen minutes black smoke throughout the observations. Informal action

being unavailing, statutory procedure was resorted to and accordingly a notice under Sections 93, 101 and 102 of the Public Health Acts, 1875-1936 was served. It is gratifying to note that the Company subsequently elected to supplement the existing plant by the installation of a motor generator; since this installation, no further nuisance has arisen.

MILK PRODUCTION.

The number of milk-producing farms in the district is 49, two instances where milk production was discontinued being replaced by two additional milk producers. The following improvements were effected at the various farms :

Floors paved	-	-	2
Channels repaired	-	-	2
Additional lighting provided	-	-	1
Dairy reconstructed	-	-	1
Walls rendered	-	-	1
Yard paved	-	-	1
Water trough repaired	-	-	1
Accumulations removed	-	-	1
Cleansings	-	-	10
Miscellaneous	-	-	2

Retail Dairies and Milkshops.

There are 43 registered dairies in the district and 55 registered persons occupying milkshops whereat is retailed sterilised milk or other milk which is sold in the sealed receptacle in which it is received. This qualification has the effect of placing the premises outside the definition of dairy.

Mastitis.

Five notifications of mastitis were received from the Essex County Council, and in each case the animal was segregated, appropriate visits of inspection being made with a view to ensuring the carrying out of the exclusion orders.

Milk Retailers.

Number of retailers licensed to sell :

(a)	Accredited milk	....	6
(b)	Tuberculin tested milk	....	3
(c)	Certified pasteurised	....	Nil
(d)	Pasteurised	....	4

Milk Samples—Ungraded Milks.

Samples were taken during the year and the following table sets forth the result of the analyses :

Date.	Bacteria per c.c.	B. Coli present in
2 2/37	15,000	Absent in '01
"	14,000	do.
"	8,000	do.
"	5,600	do.
27/4/37	2,400	do.
"	4,200	do.
"	3,200	do.
"	3,000	do.
18/5/37	26,000	do.
"	23,000	do.
"	3,100	do.
"	7,000	do.
25/5/37	63,000	do.
"	144,000	Present in '01
"	102,000	Absent in '01
15/6/37	5,800	do.
"	2,600	do.
"	9,000	do.
29/6/37	34,000	Present in '01
"	22,000	do.
"	13,000	Absent in '01
15/7/37	840,000	Present in '001
"	240,000	do.
"	110,000	do.
"	96,000	do.
"	64,000	Present in '01
20/7/37	43,000	do.
"	18,000	do.
27/7/37	38,000	Absent in '01
"	150,000	Present in '001
"	240,000	Present in '01
"	4,300	Absent in '01
"	54,000	Present in '01
"	21,000	Absent in '01
"	110,000	Present in '001
"	32,000	Absent in '01
"	4,800	do.
"	39,000	Present in '01
8/9/37	9,000	Absent in '01
"	12,000	Present in '01
"	7,400	Absent in '01

It will be noted that of the 41 samples taken 16 were found to be unsatisfactory. In all instances further visits were made to the premises until subsequent satisfactory samples were taken.

MILK SAMPLES—GRADED MILKS.

Date.	Grade	Meth. Blue Test.	Coliform Test.
25/5/37	Accredited	Unsatisfactory	Unsatisfactory
15/6/37	do.	do.	Satisfactory
29/6/37	do.	Satisfactory	do.
„	do.	do.	do.
„	do.	do.	do.
„	do.	do.	do.
27/7/37	do.	do.	do.
„	do.	do.	do.

The two unsatisfactory samples shewn were taken from the same farm. Further visits were made until a subsequent sample proved to be satisfactory.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Legal proceedings were instituted against a registered cowkeeper arising out of his failure to comply with the provisions of Article 21 of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, in connection with the cleanliness of his milk utensils. The Magistrates convicted and a fine of £2 was imposed.

MILK IN SCHOOLS.

From time to time samples of milk were taken from the various schools in the district, and from licensed retailers of pasteurised milk. The following table sets forth the number of samples and the results of the analyses :

Date	No. of Bacteria per ml.	Phosphatase Reaction.
22/3/37	1,800	Not undertaken
„	7,300	do.
„	2,500	do.
„	2,300	do.
22/4/37	3,200	do.
„	17,000	do.
„	2,600	do.
„	14,000	do.
29/6/37	19,000	Under 2·3
(a) 27/9/37	210,000	do.
(b) „	190,000	do.
14/10/37	4,500	do.
„	4,100	do.
15/10/37	8,400	do.
8/12/37	900	do.
„	1,600	do.

In regard to items (a) and (b) the following remarks apply:—

(a) This dealer obtained his supply of Pasteurised milk in bulk from a Pasteurising establishment within the district, but failed to exercise reasonable care in the filling and cleanliness of the bottles. Appropriate representation was made to him.

(b) This sample was taken from a Pasteurising establishment which normally yielded satisfactory results. No definite defect in the arrangements could be discovered, but it was suspected that the lapse may have been brought about by either the advent of a dirty bottled or cooling the Pasteurised milk on the same cooler and immediately after the cooling of ordinary milk.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Number of Animals Inspected.

Cattle	....	2,127
Calves	....	208
Sheep	....	3,744
Swine	....	5,187
Goats	....	Nil

Unsound Meat Surrendered.

Approximately 35,515 lbs. of meat was confiscated, comprising 22 entire beasts' carcasses, 1 calf's carcass, 15 entire pigs' carcasses, 5 entire sheeps' carcasses, and sundry other parts, viscera, etc.

Other Foods Surrendered.

FISH.

Cod	84 lbs.
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MISCELLANEOUS.

9 rabbits	...	20 lbs.
1 tin corned beef	6 lbs.
1 boneless ox crop	126 lbs.
1 tin lambs' livers	.	10 lbs.
11 chickens	..	24 lbs.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Number of registered Slaughterhouses	2
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Number of licensed Slaughterhouses	18
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These premises are subjected to supervision from the point of view of cleanliness, limewashing, &c. In two instances additional artificial lighting was required, and in a further two instances internal water services were provided.

There is one licensed Knacker's Yard within the district.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

A register of all licensed slaughtermen pursuant to Section 3 (1) of the above-mentioned Act is kept and the number so licensed is 51.

Only one instance was noted of failure to comply with the provisions of this Act relating to humane slaughtering, and this was made the subject of legal proceedings. The case was presented at the Grays Court on 22nd October, 1937; the magistrates held that conviction must ensue, and the defendant employer and his servant were each fined £2.

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1933.—SALE OF ICE-CREAM AND SIMILAR COMMODITIES.

Number of premises on register	....	76
Number of persons on register	....	77

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Number of cesspools now existing in the				
District	....	....	....	487
Number of pail closets and privies	....			630
Number of privies abolished....	....			8
Number of pail closets substituted	...			8

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Number of Council houses found to be				
infested	-	-	-	54
Number of other houses found to be infested				26

Methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed-bugs :—

The taking down of all detachable woodwork, firing with a blow-lamp and spraying with a proprietary insecticide.

Methods employed for ensuring the belongings of prospective tenants of Council houses are free from vermin :—

The belongings of prospective Council house tenants are inspected by the members of the Public Health staff and the circumstances disclosed reported upon to the Housing Department. If vermin are found to be present, the tenant is not accepted until conditions have been remedied. The tenant is usually loaned the requisite plant and vermicide by the Public Health Department.

The disinfestation of private houses is carried out by the owners or occupiers under the supervision of the Local Authority, whilst the disinfestation of Council houses is undertaken by the Housing Department of the Local Authority.

SHOPS ACT, 1934—Section 10.

No. of shops whereat means of providing and maintaining a reasonable temperature were found to be insufficient	-	-	54
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In each of the foregoing provision for heating was made.

Cases have been recorded where, although provision of heating has been made on request, considerable doubt exists as to whether, in view of the structure of the shop, it can be regarded as sufficient. The matter will not be overlooked, and it is proposed that further action shall ensue during the coming winter.

Considerable opposition was experienced in the administration of this section, especially from the purveyors of meat and fruit, although no instance occurred where ultimate compliance with the requirements of the section was refused.

No. of shops at which there was insufficient sanitary accommodation	-	-	27
„ of shops at which new sanitary accommodation was provided	-	-	15
„ of shops at which alternative accommodation was arranged	-	-	7
„ of shops at which this matter is still outstanding	-	-	5

HOUSING.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 1800
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(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose 5590

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925	398
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(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose 1657

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	996

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	677
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(A) *Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	13
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	

(a) By owners 9

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served under the Council's Housing Byelaws ...	32
---	----

(4) Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit as the result thereof	11
---	----

(5) Number of Byelaw Notices still outstanding	21
--	----

(B) *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	77
--	----

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
--	--

(a) By Owners 27

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

(C) *Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	....	16
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	5
(3) Number of houses in respect of which undertakings not to re-let have been accepted....		1
(4) Number of houses in respect of which undertakings to render fit were accepted	....	7

(D) *Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	....	... Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	Nil

CLEARANCE AREA.

1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 Turner's Row, Dock Road, Little Thurrock.

These five houses were the subject of a Clearance Order made by the Council and subsequently confirmed by the Ministry.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

(1) INSPECTIONS OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES

Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

Premises.	In- spections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prose- cuted
1	2	3	4
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	82	7	Nil
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	34	2	Nil
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers premises)	25	Nil	Nil
Total	141	9	Nil

(2) DEFECTS FOUND

in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Offences in respect of which Prosecu- tions were Instituted
	Found.	Rem- edied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts -</i>				
Want of cleanliness	2	2	—	—
Want of ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	—	—	—	—
<i>Sanitary accommodation—</i>				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective	—	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
<i>Offences under Factory & Workshops Acts—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	16	15	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to outwork, and offences under the Sections men- tioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921]				
Total	18	17	—	—

LIST OF WORKS EXECUTED.

Dampness remedied	....	....	269
Rooms :			
Stripped, cleansed and redecorated	....	....	614
Plaster repaired	....	....	288
Floors repaired	....	....	141
Windows repaired, renewed or extended	...	....	389
Stoves repaired or renewed	....	....	148
Doors, locks, &c.	....	....	76
Vermin disinfested	....	....	29
Ventilated Food Stores and repairs	...	....	93
STAIRCASES :			
Stripped or redecorated	....	....	10
Handrails fixed	....	....	86
Lighting provided	....	....	94
Repairs	....	....	44
SANITARY FITMENTS :			
New Sinks, &c.	....	....	37
Coppers provided or repaired	....	....	65
Pail Closets substituted for earth closets	...	....	8
W.C.'s repaired or renewed	....	....	77
New pedestals	..	....	5
Waste-water pipes repaired or renewed	....	....	35
Soil or vent pipes repaired or renewed	....	....	11
DRAINS :			
Unstopped or repaired	....	....	77
New drains	....	...	5
Gullies repaired or renewed	....	....	20
Inspection Chambers repaired or provided			2
WATER SUPPLIES AND FITTINGS :			
Wells abolished	....	....	2
New Services	....	...	8
Repaired or renewed	...	....	23
EXTERNAL WORKS :			
Roofs repaired or renewed	....	....	225
Gutters and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	....	....	120
Walls repaired or renewed	....	....	70
Yards repaired or paved	....	....	70
Dustbins provided	....	....	279
Accumulations removed	....	...	10
MILK AND DAIRIES :			
Cleanliness	....	....	10

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Considerable use has been made of the provisions of Section 109 of the Essex County Council Act, 1933, in the matter of the prohibition of use for human habitation within the Urban District of caravans and other mobile structures habitually used for human habitation. In particular the Portsea and Bryanston Road Sites at West Tilbury were made the subject of a special effort, the sites in many instances being owner-occupied, the occupiers having resided thereon from periods varying from five to twenty-five years. Thirty-eight applications for permission to use caravans for human habitation were considered and refused.

Arising out of the Council's refusal ten appeals were lodged. The appeals were heard at Grays Court and the appellants represented by Counsel. The Court decided as follows :—

7 appeals were dismissed.

1 appeal allowed (Fobbing area)

1 appellant moved away.

1 deferred for 1 year pending erection of a house.

The following cases were dealt with summarily :—

Portsea Road area Daily penalty of 2/6 imposed.

„	„	„	„
„	„	....	Fined 5/-	after several
				adjournments.

„	„	....	Daily penalty of 2/6 imposed.
Chadwell area	„	....	„

Three applications by owners of land to use the same for the purpose of occupation for human habitation by caravans were considered and refused.

HOUSING ACT, 1936—OVERCROWDING.

It will be remembered that at the end of the year 1936, of the 331 cases of overcrowding outstanding as a result of the Overcrowding Survey, 220 cases were abated during the year, thus reducing the number of overcrowded cases at the beginning of this year to 111. Of this number 54 were abated during the year, leaving a

final figure of 57 cases yet to be dealt with. 10 new cases were discovered, and, having first been reported to the Health Committee, were passed on to the Housing Committee for re-housing.

No. of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of year	67
No. of families dwelling therein	.... 73
No. of persons dwelling therein	.... 597
No. of new cases reported during the year	.... 10
No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	54
No. of persons concerned in such cases	.... 450

REPORT OF THE SHOPS INSPECTOR.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting herewith my report of the action taken in the administration of the various Shops Acts during 1937.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

The following Acts and Orders are in operation within the Urban District of Thurrock:—

The Shops Act, 1912.

The Shops Act, 1913.

The Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928.

The Shops Act, 1934.

The Shops Act 1936 (Libraries).

The Retail Meat Dealers Shop (Sunday Closing) Act, 1936.

The Shops (Sunday Trading Restrictions) Act, 1936.

CLOSING AND HALF-HOLIDAY ORDERS.

1. The Grays Thurrock Weekly Half-Holiday (No. 1) Order, 1913.
2. The Grays Thurrock Weekly Half-Holiday (No. 2) Order, 1913.
3. The Grays Thurrock Extension of Weekly Half-Holiday (No. 1) Order, 1913.
4. The Stanford-le-Hope Weekly Half-Holiday Order, 1913.
5. The Stanford-le-Hope Extension of Weekly Half-Holiday (No. 1) Order, 1913.

6. The County of Essex (Shops Exemption) (No. 5) Order 1913.
7. The County of Essex (Shops Exemption) (No. 7) Order, 1914.
8. The County of Essex (Shops Exemption) (No. 8) Order, 1914.
9. The South Ockendon Weekly Half-Holiday (No. 2) Order, 1914.
10. The South Ockendon Weekly Half-Holiday Order, 1914.
11. The Grays Thurrock Weekly Half-Holiday (No. 1) Order 1915.
12. The Tilbury Weekly Half-Holiday (No. 1) Order, 1917.
13. The Grays Thurrock Closing Order, 1917.
14. The Tilbury Hairdressers Closing Order, 1917.
15. The Grays Thurrock Closing Order, 1922.
16. The West Thurrock Tobacconists (Hours of Closing) Order, 1929.
17. The Lambourne and Stifford Tobacconists (Hours of Closing) Order, 1929.
18. The Little Thurrock Tobacconists (Hours of Closing) Order, 1930.
19. The Thurrock Urban District Shops (Sunday Trading Restrictions) Act, 1936, Order No. 1.

HOURS OF CLOSING AND HALF-HOLIDAY ORDERS.

There are 9 of the above-mentioned Orders extant within the area, all of which, with the exception of No. 19, were in force prior to the amalgamation of the component districts. It was felt desirable that an endeavour should be made to regulate and unify closing hours and weekly half-holidays. Accordingly, appropriate action was taken for ascertaining the wishes of the various shop-keepers. Arising from these activities it was found there were 847 shops in the area and, a major opinion having been arrived at, the necessary procedure was started and will doubtless be concluded in the coming year. It will be appreciated that this was a task of some considerable magnitude involving some 2,000 odd visits, care being taken to see that, so far as possible, every shop-keeper responded.

During the year 1,732 visits were made to shops in connection with the administration of the various Acts, and the tabulated results of these inspections are given hereunder.

SHOPS ACT, 1912.

No. of premises at which Form 1 was required to be provided	....	....	.... 103
No. of premises at which Form 4 was required to be provided	....	....	23

One shop-keeper was found to have no early closing day as required by the Act, but this matter was rectified without recourse to legal proceedings.

Legal proceedings were instituted against a shop-keeper for failing to exhibit the forms required by the Act and the defendant was fined 10/-.

SHOPS (HOURS OF CLOSING) ACT, 1928.

A considerable amount of time was devoted to evening observations in connection with infringements of this Act, and of the 64 shops which were actually entered it was ascertained that in 42 instances the shops were open for the sale of goods after the statutory closing hours. In most cases warning letters were sent in regard to these offences, but in four instances legal proceedings were instituted, resulting in fines of 2/6, 7/6, 10/- and 10/- being imposed.

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

No. of premises at which Form E was required to be provided	....	....	.... 20
No. of premises at which Form F was required to be provided	....	....	.... 58
No. of premises at which Form G was required to be provided	....	....	.... 7
No. of premises at which Form H was required to be provided	....	....	.... 75
No. of premises at which Form K was required to be provided	....	....	.... 63
No. of premises at which proper facilities for meals were required	...	....	.... 2
No. of premises at which proper facilities for washing were required	....	....	.... 15

Four instances of shop-keepers working their assistants in excess of the permitted number of hours were discovered. In two of these cases matters were adjusted satisfactorily by informal action. In the third and fourth cases legal proceedings were resorted to, the defendant in one case being fined 10/-, and in the other the case was dismissed, the assistant being held not to be an assistant within the meaning of the Act.

SHOPS (SUNDAY TRADING RESTRICTIONS) ACT, 1936.

This Act came into force on the 1st May and 237 Sunday Visits have been made in order to ensure compliance therewith.

No. of premises at which Form 1 was required to be provided	...	...	66
No. of premises at which Form 7 was required to be provided	...	...	23

Two instances were discovered in which shop-keepers had failed to give their assistants compensatory holidays for work performed on Sundays. One case was remedied by informal action whilst the other became the subject of legal proceedings and the defendant was fined 5/-.

It was also found necessary to resort to court action in the case of the occupier of a shop who had failed to fill in Form 7 of this Act, and a fine of 5/- was imposed.

HOTELS.

Hotels were visited with a view to ascertaining whether or not they were non-residential in character, and whether persons were employed thereat pursuant to the provisions of the Shops (Sunday Trading Restrictions) Act, 1936. It will be appreciated that the determination as to whether or not a hotel comes within the purview of the Shops Act is fraught with considerable difficulty. One instance was noted where the occupier of an alleged residential hotel agreed, after conference, that the hotel was non-residential in character and certain of its employees were within the purview of Section 11 of the Shops (Sunday Trading Restrictions) Act, 1936.

I have the honour to remain,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

L. CULLIS, *Shops Inspector.*

(iv.) SHOPS.

(See report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector).

(v.) SMOKE ABATEMENT.

(See report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector).

(vi.) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

The public swimming bath belonging to the Council remains closed. There is one swimming pool attached to a secondary school, one attached to a factory and one belonging to a Training Ship.

The Council have under consideration at the present time the erection of a modern swimming pool situated in the ward of Little Thurrock.

(vii.) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

(See report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector).

4. SCHOOLS.

Owing to the fact that the Medical Officer of Health acts as Assistant County Medical Officer, supervision over public elementary schools is much simplified. During the year all schools were visited by the Deputy or Assistant Medical Officer acting as Assistant County Medical Officers.

All cases of Infectious Disease occurring in the schools are notified to the Medical Officer of Health by the Head Teacher, and visits are paid either by one of the Medical Officers or by one of the Council's Health Visitors acting as School Nurse.

Section D. HOUSING.

(See the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector).

Section E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION
OF FOODS.(a) *Milk Supply.*(b) *Meat and Other Foods.*

See the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

(c) *Adulteration.*

Essex County Council is the Authority under this heading.

(d) *Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.*

Essex County Council carries out all duties under this heading.

(e) *Nutrition.*

Propaganda work is carried out at the Infant Welfare Centre and 500 copies per month of "Better Health" are distributed to schools, libraries, and various establishments in the Urban District.

(f) *Shellfish.*

There are no shellfish beds or layings within the district.

*Section F. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL
General. OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.*

(a) DIPHTHERIA. The number of cases notified were not unduly large. Diphtheria Anti-toxin is available at the Public Health Department, Grays Police Station and the Isolation Hospital.

(b) SCARLET FEVER. The number of cases notified continued high during the year and it is my impression that many cases of streptococcal infection, especially of sore throats, occurring without a rash, escaped notification. As will be seen from the table below, the majority of the patients were admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)
during 1937.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified.	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .	329 (4)	287	—
Diphtheria	78 (11)	77	2
Typhoid Fever including Paratyphoid ..	3 (1)	3	—
Puerperal Fever ...	2	2	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	11	8	—
Pneumonia	54	16	35
Erysipelas	14 (1)	9	—
Pemphigus Neonatorum	12	6	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5 (1)	3	—
Dysentery	1	1	—
Polio-encephalitis	1	1	—
Poliomyelitis	2	2	—
TOTAL	512 (18)	415	38

The figures in parentheses indicate the number of cases in which diagnosis was not confirmed.

The figures in admissions column do not necessarily agree with the details in the Isolation Hospital report as some of the patients notified resided in establishments such as South Ockendon Mental Colony, the training ships "Warspite" and "Exmouth," &c., and were removed to Isolation Hospitals provided by London County Council and other authorities.

ANALYSIS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

[illegible]

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINIC.

Sessions held	....	...	....	30
Total attendances	....	....	....	1267
New cases seen	....	....	....	250
No. receiving primary Schick Test				
(a) positive	....	....	....	26
(b) negative	....	....	...	11
No. receiving Immunisation treatment			....	752
,, ,, second Schick test				
(a) positive	....	....	....	17
(b) negative	..	...	...	249
No. of Immunity Certificates issued			....	249

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

SEC. 66 PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925.

No action was taken under this heading.

TUBERCULOSIS.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925, SEC. 62, PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925.

No action was taken under this heading.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937.

Age Groups.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1
1—5 years	2	1	7	...	...	...	3	1
5—15	4	4	5	5	1	...	1	...
15—25	12	7	4	3	2	4	...	1
25—35	7	6	3	...	1	3	...	...
35—45	6	3	...	...	5	4	...	...
45—55	5	2	...	...	4	2	...	...
55—65	3	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 years upwards	2	1	...	...	2	...	...	...
TOTALS...	41	26	19	9	16	13	4	3

The efficiency of notification in the Urban District is satisfactory. No evidence is available that any particular occupation in the area is responsible for excessive incidence of Tuberculosis.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Details of the facilities available for residents in the Urban District have been given in previous Reports.

